



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/523,030	09/26/2005	Kenzo Miya	265347US2XPCT	8402
22850 7590 06/20/2008 OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				
EXAMINER NGUYEN, TRAN N				
ART UNIT 2834		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 06/20/2008		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

patentdocket@oblon.com
oblonpat@oblon.com
jgardner@oblon.com

CONTINUE PAGE

New Issue

The new issue is the currently amended limitations of the yoke members directly contact an entire area, instead of previously recited that the yoke members are configured to contact substantially an entire area.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed on 6/05/08, have been fully considered and are found NOT persuasive.

The applicant asserts that Shiga discusses in column 5, lines 48-56 that each unit yoke 36 is made by stacking a plurality of steel sheets 40 axially with respect to the rotor. The axially stacked steel sheets 40 are caulked so that the steel sheets 40 are mechanically connected together.

In response to this argument, whether Shiga's each unit yoke 36 is made by stacking a plurality of steel sheets 40 axially with respect to the rotor or not is **irrelevant because the claimed language does not specifically recite the stacking direction of the yoke members.**

In fact, the recitation is "*the yoke comprises a plurality of yoke members made of a magnetic material and arranged in superposed layers with an insulating layer interposed between each adjacent pair of yoke members*". **Shiga** teaches a yoke (36) comprises a plurality of yoke members (40 in fig 6) made of a magnetic material, particularly steel material, and arranged in superposed layers with an insulating layer interposed between each adjacent pair of yoke members (40), i.e., the stacked steel sheets 40 are insulated from one another, eddy-current loss about the magnetic flux can be prevented and accordingly, the magnetic property can be improved (col 7 lines 28-31). Thus, **Shiga** teaches the structure of yoke members superposed with insulating layer interposed and the motivation therefor.

Communication

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tran N. Nguyen via email at Tran.Nguyen@USPTO.gov

The applicant is advised that all communications via email are unofficial; emailing is only a means to establish contact with the Examiner.

Alternately, the examiner's telephone number is 571-272-2030 from 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by email and/or telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner can be reached via email. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone or email are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. **(Note: Use this Central Fax number 571-273-8300 for all official response.)**

Do **not** use the Examiner's RightFax number without informing the Examiner first because, according to the USPTO policy, any document being sent via RightFax is treated as unofficial response and will not be officially dated until it is routed to the Central Fax.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tran Nguyen/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2834